

Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-10

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SUBJ: FURTHER VENEZUELAN REACTION TO SECRETARY'S VISIT TO
BRAZIL

REF: CARACAS 2100

1. THREE VENEZUELAN EX-FOREIGN MINISTERS AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE'S COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS HAVE COMMENTED ON THE US-BRAZIL AGREEMENT. RENE DE SOLA, FOREIGN MINISTER DURING THE 1958 PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT, TOLD EL NACIONAL THAT THE AGREEMENT "CREATES A KIND OF INEQUALITY BETWEEN THE REST OF THE CONTINENT AND REDUCES THE EXPECTATIONS OF THE POSITIVE RESULTS WHICH THE RECENT VISIT OF HENRY KISSINGER COULD HAVE HAD."

2. IGNACIO LUIS ARCAYA, FOREIGN MINISTER UNDER PRESIDENT BETANCOURT, TOLD EL NACIONAL THAT HE HAD NOT READ THE AGREEMENT BUT THAT HE AGREED WITH THE RECENT NEW YORK TIMES EDITORIAL ON THE SUBJECT. HE CHARACTERIZED THE SECRETARY'S "POLITICAL STYLE" AS "NINETEENTH CENTRY" AND SUGGESTED THE AGREEMENT SEEKS TO CREATE "A WASHINGTON-BRAZIL AXIS."

3. FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER (UNDER BENTANCOURT) MARCOS FALCON BRICENO, NOW AN INDEPENDENT DEPUTY, WAS QUOTED AS SAYING
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"FOR THE US TO RECOGNIZE BRAZIL AS AN EMERGING WORLD POWER

EXPRESSES, IN A CERTAIN WAY, A REALITY...IT IS NATURAL FOR THAT
DECISION TO AWAKE, IN SOME LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES, A CERTAIN
DISTRUST, FOR REASONS OF PRESTIGE...I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE
VOICE OF BRAZIL, BY THE FACT OF THAT RECOGNITION, CAN ALTER THE
WORKING OF EXISTING JURIDICAL MECHANISMS, ESPECIALLY IN THE
OAS, WHERE TODAY NOT EVEN THE US HAS THE LEADING VOICE."

4. RAMON J. VELAZQUEZ, CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE'S COMMITTEE
ON FOREIGN RELATIONS, IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE "DECLARATION
OF BRAZIL" WAS THE REAL REASON FOR THE SECRETARY'S LATIN AMERICAN
TRIP. HE ALSO REPORTEDLY SAID THAT THE AGREEMENT "BREAKS THE
EQUILIBRIUM SIGNIFIED BY THE POLICY OF HEMISPHERIC COOPERATION
CARRIED ON BY THE OAS."
SHLAUDEMANN

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